

## Remarks

### I. Status and Nature of the Invention

Claims 1-28 and 35-43 are pending. All claims stand free of the prior art.

### II. The Rejections of Claims 44-46 Pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) or (b) as being anticipated by the English translation of JP 9 239 396.


By the foregoing amendment, Applicants has cancelled rejected claims 44-46; therefore, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection of claims 44-46 is moot.

### III. Concluding Remarks

Having now fully responded to all outstanding rejections and objections, Applicants respectfully submit that the present application is in condition for Allowance, and earnestly solicit early notice of such favorable action. The Examiner is respectfully invited to contact the undersigned with respect to any issues regarding this application.

Respectfully Submitted,

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